tests so far conducted and the results thereof; and

(c) the staps to promote the use of this drug not only for family welfare programme but also as a treatment of a breast cancer?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c). A non-hormonal contraceptive known as Centchroman has been developed by the Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow which has shown some promise in the treatment of breast cancer. Clinical trials have been carried out in seven centres in India covering 232 patients. 182 patients completed the study. A positive response has been observed in 58% of cases. The trials are continuing.

**Conference of Heads of Panchayats**

1748. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what were the main suggestions and observations made at the two day conference of Heads of Panchayats held on October 9-10, 1995;

(b) whether any plan of action has been drawn out for implementing the recommendations made at the conference; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) Details regarding suggestions and observations made at the two day conference of Heads of Panchayats held on October 9-10,1995 are given in the enclosed statement. (*see* below)

(b) and (c) The recommendations have been circulated to all the States/UTs and to the concerned Ministries/Departments for taking suitable action.

**Statement**

*Recommendations of the Panchayat Adhyakashas Sammelan held at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium New Delhi on 9th and 10th oct., 1995*

1. **Elections**

Wherever panchayats have not been constituted, the elections must be held immediately.

2. **Devolution**

Having constituted panchayats, steps should be taken to make them functional by devolution of adequate powers, functions and finances.

3. **Financial Support**

Mere transfer of subjects would not make much sense, unless these are backed up by adequate financial support. There is, therefore, an urgent need to devolve adequate finances on PRIs, pending the recommendations of the State Finance Commission in this behalf.

4. **Mobilisation of Resources**

Panchayats must be empowered and mobilised to raise their own resources.

5. **Administration Strengthening**

Keeping the increased flow of funds and the responsibilities bestowed on panchayats in view, they need to be strengthened administratively and technically. The functionaries must be in position and placed under the charge of panchayats. There should be a separate cadre of Panchayat Officers and staff.

6. **Harmonious relationship between elected representatives of Panchayats and bureaucracy.**

The elected representatives of panchayats and the bureaucracy should develop the healthy convention of working hand-in-hand and should have mutual appreciation of each others role for effective functioning of the new system.

7. **Training and Awareness Building**

In order to equip the newly elected members of panchayats fully for their role, they should be oriented to their new responsibilities through information and education. For this purpose, all media of communication should be used. This awareness creation process should be a continuous process. The access to information also needs to be improved.

8. **Standing Committees**

For efficient and quick decisions and effective supervision and monitoring of the implementation of programmes of social and economic development, the panchayats should constitute Standing Committees. Women, SCs and STs should be associated with these Committees.

9. **District Planning**

Appropriate mechanism will have to be evolved for preparation of district plans, keeping in view the socio-economic requirements and the resource availability.

10. **Gram Sabha**

The Gram Sabha as a forum for participatory democracy, needs to be strengthened. It must meet regularly and consider various matters relating to developmental activities. The deliberations of the Gram Sabha must reflect the felt needs of people and work towards the realisation of their aspirations. Gram Sabhas should identify and select the appropriate beneficiaries of poverty alleviation programmes.

11. **Transparency**

The panchayats must ensure transparency and accountability in their functioning to strengthen the faith of the people in the institutions of self-governance.

12. **Affirmative Action Towards Disadvantaged Groups**

The panchayats must ensure that the developmental activities are geared to the objective of bringing the weaker sections of the society into the main stream and they become active participants in the process. They should particularly work towards removal of all forms of exploitation, discriminatory practices and equitable distribution of fruits of development.

13. **Social Mobilisation**

Panchayats must mobilise people for social development, in particular, literacy, health, sanitation, programmes for women and child welfare etc.

14. **Rural Litigation**

The PRIs should facilitate resolution of rural disputes. It may be possible to confer judicial powers on Gram Panchayats which will strengthen the morale of the people and this may further bind the social fabric of the villages. Gram Panchayats should play a vital role in implementing justice in the country side after thoroughly examining the system that prevailed in the past. This will further boost the image of the Panchayati Raj system in general and village panchayat in particular in day to day activities of the villages.

15. **Land Reforms**

Panchayats may play an effective role in making the land reforms programme a success and ensure proper distribution of surplus land.

16. **Integration of DRDAs with Zilla Parishad**

There should be coordination between DRDAs and Zilla Parishads. The DRDAs should work in consultation with and under the guidance of Zilla Parishads. The Chairpersons of Zilla Parishads should be Ex-officio Chairman of DRDA.

17. All programmes of poverty alleviation at the panchayat level should be implemented by them.

18. Efforts need to be made to bring about a measure of uniformity in structure, powers and functions of panchayats throughout the country.

19. Parishads may be formed at State and Central levels to coordinate the activities of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

20. The panchayats should be involved in the implementation of all programmes funded by various Central Ministries.

**Sale of shares of PSUs**

1749. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of shares of Public Sector Undertakings sold after the first round of disinvestment of PSU shares was started in October, 1995;

(b) the names of PSUs whose shares were sold in large numbers;

(c) whether the response has been encouraging and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (d). In the first round of disinvestment for 1995-96, 27.16 crore shares in four PSUs were offered for sale. Based on the competitive bidding and keeping in view the reserve price, 1.53 crore shares are estimated to be sold. The largest number of share were sold in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. Responses depend on the market conditions and the perceptions of the hidders about particular scrips.

**Medical Colleges in NE States**

1750. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) names of Medical Colleges in North-Eastern States, State-wise alongwith respective dates of their opening;

(b) whether any Council Body has, in the recent past, recommended derecognition of the Medical College at Dibrugarh, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the amounts of grants released by Central Government and Assam Government to Dibrugarh Medical College (DMC) during last decade, year-wise; and

(d) the details of sanctioned strength of staff and actual positioned strength at DMC, designation-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) The names of medical colleges in North Eastern States and year of inception of each of the colleges is given in the enclosed statement. (*see* below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

**Statement**

*Names of the Medical Colleges alongwith the names of the states where they are located and the year of their inception*

| | Name of State | Name of Medical Colleges | Year of Inception |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | ASSAM | (a) Gauhati Medical College, Gauhati | 1960 |
| | | (b) Silchar Medical College, Silchar | 1968 |
| | | (c) Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh | 1947 |
| 2. | MANIPUR | (a) Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal. | 1972 |